THE EXAMINER.

No. 107. SUNDAY, JAN. 14, 1810.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 103.

DINNER IN HONOUR OF THE PERSIAN AMBASSADOR.

A late eminent painter estimated the sensibility of a man by the muscles that play about the mouth. No judgment could be more truly English. To call all these muscles into play, or in other words, to give a dinner, is the last expression of English feeling towards others, and it is equally expressive on all occasions, jovial or important. If there are so many receipts for great dinners, a great dinner is a receipt for every thing—but health. Does a great man arrive among us? We eat turtle to welcome him. Does he take his leave? We eat turtle to speed him. Is he living? We eat turtle because he lives. Is he dead? We eat turtle because he is no more. Thus the Persian Ambassador, in being treated with a grand dinner, has received the highest honour which modern Britons can bestow. His health has been toasted, not to mention assailed, by the finest bumpers; he has been pressed to eat this and to eat that, has been annoyed by the steams of all sorts of meat, and the snirkings and jargon of all sorts of men; he has contemplated the lofty countenances of our legislators, brilliant as the gold of Bokhara, and refreshing as the streams of Rocnabad; he has heard their wise sayings and their jokes in the happiest manner possible, that is to say, the most unintelligible; he has been entertained with a profusion of brisk footmen, and scramblings, and pert faces, and gigglings, and bursts of laughter, all so venerable to an Eastern Chief; in fine, he has been at a city dinner, and if he has not received a high impression of the English character, I will be bold to say, that it was not the waiter's fault.

The humour of this "feast for Persia won" is not quite so exquisite as that of the PITT dinner, because the newspapers have not given us the various speeches on the occasion; but the powers of dining were as conspicuous in every respect as formerly; I do not mean with regard to the fish and flesh only, but with respect to the mighty fates that were determined there. The first thing, however, that strikes us, is the "style of elegance" with which the room in the London Tavern was fitted up on the occasion. The ceiling and three sides of the room, we are told, were decorated with beautiful devices and artificial flowers, while the fourth was entirely covered with plate glass, ornamented with variegated lamps and brilliant lustres: a most elegant transparency, representing his Majesty, with the King of Persia on his right, overhung the President's chair: various parts of the tables were adorned with Egyptian pillars, from which were suspended the Persian banners, the arms of the Persian Ambassador, and "*several* trophies gained by the British arms;" and lastly, "the room was fitted up with elegant sofas and settees, covered with the richest crimson satin, in the true style of oriental splendour." How delicious! How apropos to the times! How exquisitely WELLESLEIAN! Here is the Persian Ambassador, a handsome speculative gentleman, who comes over to England from that "Nutmeg of Delight" SHAH ALI, and sets himself down to dinner in rooms covered with artificial flowers and plate glass, for the mere purpose, it should seem, of proving to us how wrong we are to lament the pressure of the taxes. It is no doubt perfectly consoling, during the present high price of coals and provisions, to hear of all the snug and the splendid enjoyments of a few of our countrymen, the elegant sofas and settees, the richest crimson satin, and the true style of oriental splendour. If thousands of lives are wasted in Walcheren, the Army nevertheless is immortalized in toasts: if money is squeezed out of our fingers' ends by all sorts of inquisitorial screws, and five-tenths of it are thrown away upon foreign disasters, we have the satisfaction of seeing a whole tenth flourishing in artificial flowers, in emblematical devices of prosperity, and in the most perfect specimens of paste; lastly, if thousands of our countrymen in Spain have lain down and died, for nothing at all, in their own crimson blood, we have the delicious gratification of seeing their best friends, the British Ministe[redacted]upon crimson sofas, the blushes of which are reflected, not indeed in the faces of the company, but in magnificent plate glass, one piece of which shall cost as much as the unavailing year's labour of ten families.

The toasts were in full accord with these consoling appearances. BONAPARTE, they say, is very temperate, and thinks it necessary to give himself much profound trouble in order to determine the destinies of mankind. Poor fellow! He is little aware, when he settles the fate of a nation by taking a great city, that we can do quite as much by taking a great dinner. It is at dinners, that we settle the most important matters without taking the trouble even of thinking: it is at dinners, that France has been ruined, and BONAPARTE put to death, times out of mind; it is at dinners, that Mr. PITT's memory becomes immortal,—that England, in spite of all loss and disaster, flourishes beyond any former period,—and that Austria, every time she goes to war, restores the independence of Europe. At the present dinner, we hear for the first time that there is a "*natural* union between Persia and Great Britain," and that the prosperity of England and the East India Company are so united, *they can never be*

separated. Of these pieces of intelligence, the first is as argumentative as the latter is blissful. That part of the East should have a natural union with part of the West, must be obvious to every body who can surmount the little obstacle of all the intervening countries, especially when we consider that Great Britain is chiefly known in the East by her inroads on it's territory, theology, and establishments; and when we hear that the prosperity of Great Britain cannot exist without that of the East India Company, people must be delighted to see so charming a connexion of interests, especially at a moment when the very existence of the latter is threatened with annihilation. But I am afraid, this amazing sympathy of remote things, this practical wit run mad, is too much for our weak minds, and cuts as strange a figure of contrast, as the picture of his Majesty King GEORGE and his Majesty SHAH ALI, standing together among the artificial flowers, like the two kings of Brentford smelling to one nosegay.

What the Persian Ambassador thinks of all this, it is impossible to tell, as he carries a very grave aspect. Our display of folly may possibly disconcert him at first as much as the display of ladies' necks, but no doubt he will equally put it to the account of *old custom*. They say he is a personage of much taste for the humorous, though hitherto he has kept so unofficial a quality concealed. With what skill he represses this taste will easily be conceived by those who have heard of the compliments he pays.

In his interview with Mr. PERCEVAL, when the latter begged that his Excellency would not think ill of our atmosphere because it was winter, he is reported to have said, that in the presence of Mr. PERCEVAL's countenance the sun's absence would never be regretted, that the Minister was "the ruby of delight," and that the august Consort of our Sovereign was the Venus of the West.

"Say no more: rest your colloquial fame on that."

JOHNSON.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, JAN. 1.—The Merchants have lately had several conferences with the Ministers of his Imperial Majesty, on the present state of affairs; and have submitted to them, that trade has, since the Berlin and Milan Decrees, taken quite a new direction, and is carried on by very circuitous routes, and by persons disavowed by the real Merchants.—The Ministers announced, that his Majesty's intention was, that neutrals might trade freely with France, and France with neutral countries; that the above-mentioned Decrees had been pointed only against the commerce of England; and that, if they had been misinterpreted, and a false meaning given to them, the Merchants should make representations, which would be favourably heard. It already appears to be agreed, that the visit at sea, a measure of policy adopted by all nations, is not a violation of neutral rights, and that the Decree of Milan was intended only to prevent the visit directed by the Orders of Council, of November 1807; by which neutrals were obliged to go to England, and there pay a tribute. It is also understood, that the embargo and provisional sequestration of American vessels in France, were in consequence of the Embargo Law of America, followed by the Non-intercourse Act; that we therefore considered the Americans, who came into our ports, as disguised Englishmen; and that since America has repealed her laws, ours should fall of themselves. The Merchants flatter themselves, from these communications, and from the news lately received, that America was not disposed to yield to England, that the political relations between the two countries, for the establishment of perfect harmony, will become active; and as it seems that both nations have a well pronounced intent in their success, they will probably agree on some provisional basis, and permit trade to resume its relations, reserving the ulterior discussion on the great question of maritime rights.

JAN. 2.—Colonel Burr, formerly Vice-President of the United States, arrived at Hanover on the 16th December. Gustavus Adolphus, the late King of Sweden, is to take up his residence in Switzerland, near Morat, where an estate has been purchased for him.

FROM THE AMERICAN PAPERS.

NEW YORK, DEC. 13.—EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WASHINGTON, DEC. 9.—"On Friday last, Mr. Giles called up his resolution, declaring certain expressions used by Mr. Jackson to be "highly indecorous and insolent," &c. The Senate, after hearing Mr. Giles's speech on it, adopted the resolution. The bill authorising the President to send out of the country offending foreign Ministers, passed to a third reading, and was postponed until Monday."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, Dec. 4.

Mr. TROUP submitted a number of Resolutions, whose object was the vindication and protection of our commercial rights against the hostile aggressions of the belligerents of Europe. He remarked, that the commerce, the small remnant of commerce, which we were suffered to enjoy on the ocean, it was not difficult to ascertain—so little was there of it! It was but right that we should discover upon what principle it was that England and France had issued their Orders and Decrees against neutral commerce. It was not a belligerent right; because if we submitted to the mere paper proclamations of blockade and commercial exclusion in time of war, we must likewise submit to them in intervals of peace. They were equally illegal at all times. They were not founded upon any one right whatever growing out of a state of war. What, said he, was to prohibit us from doing to England and France what they do to us? If England gave out licenses to our vessels to trade to the Continent, let us too levy duties and grant licenses to her ships to trade to the Brazils and the Spanish Main; a trade which was almost wholly engrossed by her, and to which she had no more claim than we have. If France and England seize our vessels, and detain and confiscate the property of our merchants, we have the same right to do so to them. These resolutions would not lead to hostility more than any other measure whose object was similar to that which they were intended to effectuate, the maintenance of our commercial rights. In regard to France, they would approach nearer to war than in regard to England, as the difference in their application to those two nations will shew. France had little or no commerce with the ocean; and these measures would seem to indicate towards her a more unequivocal hostility than towards Great Britain.

1. Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise the President by law to instruct the Commanders of armed vessels of the

United States, to stop and bring into the ports of the same all vessels with their cargoes, the property of the subjects of the King of Great Britain or the Emperor of France, bound to other ports than those within the dominions or colonies of either.

2. Resolved, That it is expedient further to authorise by law the detention of all ships or vessels, with their cargoes, the property of the subjects of the King of Great Britain, until the duties, to be regulated and ascertained by law, shall be first levied and collected upon the goods and merchandize whereof the said ship shall be laden, or tarif therein prescribed, and until the said ships or vessels shall have received due licence to depart.

3. Resolved, That it is expedient further to authorise by law the detention of all ships or vessels, with their cargoes, the property of the subjects of the Emperor of France, brought within the ports of the United States, there to abide the final decision or order of the Government.

4. Resolved, That an *ad valorem* duty of be levied and collected on all goods, wares, and merchandize of British product or manufacture.

5. Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise the President, on payment of the duties authorized to be levied and collected on the goods laden on board the vessels, the property of the subjects of the King of Great Britain, forthwith to grant licence to such vessels to depart, and to proceed to their original ports of destination, without further hindrance or molestation,

The Resolutions were permitted to lie on the table for consideration, and ordered to be printed.

The American Papers contain the annual Report of Mr. Gallatin, the Secretary of the Treasury, vulgarly called "The Budget." It states, that the expences of Government, exclusive of the payments on account of the capital of the debt for the year expired, have exceeded the receipts into the Treasury by the sum of nearly 1,300,000 dollars. It then proceeds to state the Supplies and Ways and Means for the year 1810; and shews, that unless the expences of the Naval and Military Establishments for that year should be reduced to about 3,000,000 of dollars, a loan will be necessary to make up the deficiency.

"That state of the Treasury," says Mr. Gallatin, "had been anticipated; and for that reason an increase of duties had been respectfully submitted in the last annual report. But should that measure be now adapted, it would not, on account of the terms of credit allowed for the payment of duties, supersede the necessity of a loan for the service of the year 1810, commensurate with the extent of those establishments, and with the appropriations which may be made for their support by Congress. No precise sum is suggested, since this must vary according to the plans which may be adopted in relation to foreign nations, and will particularly depend on the decision of Congress on the question of war or peace. It is sufficient to state, that if the actual expenditure of the year 1810, for all military and naval purposes, should be estimated at the sum which was disbursed by the Treasury for these objects during the year ending the 30th of September 1809, and exceeding, as above stated, six millions of dollars, the deficiency, according to the preceding estimates, would amount to three millions: on which supposition it would seem prudent, in order to provide against any deficiency in the receipts beyond what has been estimated, to authorise a loan of four millions of dollars. In the event of war, the necessity of rendering it efficient, and of calling for that purpose into action all the resources of the country, is too obvious to require any comment. On that subject nothing will at this time be added by this department to the suggestions respectfully submitted in the two preceding annual reports. Loans reimbursable by instalments, and at fixed periods, after the return of peace, must constitute the principal resource, for defraying the extraordinary expences of the war. For the support of public credit, the basis on which rests the practicability of obtaining loans on reasonable terms, it appears necessary that the revenue should, in the meanwhile, be equal to the interest on the public debt, including that on the new loans and to all the current expences of Government, calculated on a peace establishment, or, for the present, to about eight millions of dollars. An immediate and considerable increase of the existing duties will, it is believed, be requisite for that purpose, in order to cover the defalcation which a marine war must necessarily produce in a revenue almost exclusively depending on commerce. That increase appears preferable, in the present situation of the United States, to any other source of taxation, and is not, in time of war, liable to the objection of its encouraging smuggling. It is only in the event of that revenue being still more affected by a war than is apprehended, that a resort to internal taxes, either direct or indirect, may become necessary. If war should not be resorted to, it does not appear requisite, unless Congress should resolve on a permanent increase of the military and naval establishments in time of peace, to lay at present any additional duties beyond a mere continuance of the two and a half per cent. known under the name of 'Mediterranean Fund.'"—[The Report next proceeds to some calulations upon the probable expences of 1811, and concludes thus:—] "Whatever may be the decision of Congress in other respects, there is a subject which seems to require immediate attention. The provisions adopted for the purpose of carrying into effect the non-intercourse with England and France, particularly as modified by the act of last Session, under an expectation that the Orders of Council of Great Britain had been revoked, are inefficient, and altogether inapplicable to existing circumstances. It will be sufficient to observe, that exportation by land is not forbidden, and that no bonds being required from vessels ostensibly employed in the coasting trade, nor any authority vested by the law which will justify detention, those vessels daily sail for British ports, without any other remedy but the precarious mode of instituting prosecutions against the apparent owners. It is unnecessary and it would be painful to dwell on all the effects of these violations of the laws. But without any allusion to the efficiency or political object of any system, and merely with a view to its execution, it is incumbent to state, that, from the experience of the two last years, a perfect conviction arises, that either the system of restriction, partially abandoned, must be reinstated in all its parts, and with all the provisions necessary for its strict and complete execution, or that all the restrictions, so far at least as they affect the commerce and navigation of the citizens of the United States, ought to be removed.—All which is respectfully submitted. "ALBERT GALLATIN, Sec. of the Treasury."

Treasury Department, Dec. 9, 1809.

INDIA.

There are no direct official accounts from Madras respecting the mutiny in the Native Corps. The dispatches which Government received are from General Maitland, at Ceylon; the Company are without any advices. It is certain that the Insurgents had taken possession of Seringapatam, where they established their head-quarters, and began to provide and organize the means of resistance. The dissatisfaction, however, is said to be principally confined to the European Officers in the native regiments, the men taking no further part in the insurrection than what arises from their obedience to the orders of those from whom they were accustomed to receive command. Thirteen thousand of the King's troops, besides several Sepoy regiments, were marching against the insurgents, and expected to be joined by a considerable force from Ceylon. Colonel Gillespie, with the subsidiary force from Hydrabad, was also expected to unite with this army. Eighteen of the Native regiments, or their Officers rather, are said to be in insurrection.

After taking possession of Seringapatam, the insurgents

made that place their head quarters. and proceeded to organise their force. They had formed a Military Committee for the government of their troops, and for correspondence with the other branches of Indian army. It was apprehended the mutinous conduct of the Coast Army had been adopted in concert with some corps of the Bombay Presidency, by whom the former expected to be speedily joined.—Sir George Barlow had quitted Fort St. George, not designing, probably, to leave a strong garrison within it, and had accompanied the King's troops to the field.—It appears that the Government of Madras had long, antecedently to the open mutiny of the army, received unquestionable information of an insurrectionary spirit obtaining in it, and had taken steps to ascertain how far it had proceeded. Letters were in consequence directed to the Commanding Officers of corps at the different stations of the army, to collect their sentiments unequivocally, as well as those of the subordinate Officers, as to their loyalty and promptitude to obey the orders of the Government. —Answers not very favourable were returned from numerous corps. But in many instances, it is said, that the Commanding Officer professed his readiness to march at a moment's notice; but at the same time advised the Government, that the inferior Officers were temporarily disaffected to the service. The Commanding Officers, on the receipt of such information at the Presidency, were ordered to put their subordinate Officers under arrest; but in endeavouring to carry such orders into effect, the objects of restraint were changed—the Superiors themselves were arrested, and their respective corps marched to the point concerted.—It is said that Sir George Barlow had thought it prudent to negociate with the Soubahdars (native officers, corresponding with the rank of Captain) attached to Sepoy regiments, stationed in the vicinity of Madras, and had prevailed on them by *presents and promises* to retain their several companies in the service, and for their protection of Government, notwithstanding the disaffection of their European Officers. The European Officers, some say to the number of 150, and others to double that amount, had been dismissed from their respective corps, and Officers from the King's army had been substituted in their stead.

The discontents which have broken out in India, have long been foreseen by those best acquainted with the state of our establishments in that country, and in particular with the relative situation of the Civil and Military Servants of the Company. The Officers serving in that country have frequently complained that the fatigues and privations they had to undergo did not receive an adequate remuneration. The hardship of their situation has been considered to be aggravated, when compared with the facility with which the persons in civil employments acquired a sufficient fortune to induce them to return to their native country at a period sufficiently early to enable them to enjoy the fruits of their labour. This comparison has been a source of dissatisfaction for more than 30 years. The following statement, which was drawn up in the year 1780, will shew what was the situation of things in this respect, at that period, at Bombay:—

STATE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT AT BOMBAY IN THE YEAR 1780.

Governor and Council	11
Senior Merchants	42
Junior Merchants	16
Factors	2
Writers	32
Total number of persons	103
Of these, in the course of three years,	
There returned to Europe	31
Died	16
Dismissed	2
	49

STATE OF THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT AT BOMBAY AT THE SAME PERIOD.

General	1
Lieutenant-Colonels	4
Majors	4
Captains	59
Lieutenants	130
Ensigns	39
Cadets	30
Total	247
Of this number, in the same period of three years,	
There returned to Europe	8
Died,	102
Resigned, or were dismissed	18

The above is the abstract of a statement which was drawn up for the information of the Directors. The great number of the civil servants, compared with that of the military, who felt themselves, within the period of three years, in a situation to return to Europe, must strike the most superficial observer, and prove at once the great advantages the former possess over the latter. In fact, according to the above statement, it appears that the number of civil persons who returned to Europe in the course of three years was in the proportion of one to three, while the number of military Officers who accomplished this desirable object was only in the proportion of 1 to 30.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

ESSEX.—The misunderstanding between Mr. Burgoyne and Mr. Western, seems to originate in the difference of opinion between them, as to the propriety of party connection, and the compromise between Whigs and Tories, which has existed many years. Mr. Western declared himself a party man, and would continue such. Mr. Burgoyne disdained the title, and declared that his wish was to represent the county of Essex, and not a Junta in that County.

On Friday se'nnight a meeting took place in the vicinity of Braborne Lees, between Capt. H—gg—s and Lieut. H—, both of the 85th regiment; when the former was shot through the body, and expired in a few hours after being conveyed to the barracks. His antagonist immediately left the ground and has since absconded. The cause of this unfortunate event arose out of some reflections used between the parties with respect to each other's conduct while in Walcheren.

An affair of honour, on West Stoke Common, near the city of Chichester, took place on Monday se'nnight, between Major W——, of the Sussex Militia, and G. Stamper, Esq. late a Captain in the same regiment. The distance being measured (ten paces only), the combatants, by signal, fired together. Mr. Stamper's shot was ineffectual, but that of the Major lodged under the pistol arm of his adversary, and passed on to the blade-bone. Mr. S. however, did not feel so much inconvenience from the wound as to put it out of his power to try the chance of a second discharge, but which was prevented by the timely interposition of the police officers. They were both subsequently bound over to keep the peace. Mr. S. is considered as in a very fair way of doing well, though the ball has not yet been extracted.

On Monday morning, about three o'clock, the house of Sir Home Popham, at Trness Wood, near Sunning-hill, was broke

open by a gang of robbers. The noise alarmed the butler, who slept adjoining the pantry, and who, upon observing a light at his window, got up and dressed himself with all possible speed, and went to the pantry. Upon hearing some mens voices, he demanded to know who they were; and one of them answered they were men, and demanded to be admitted, or they would shoot him. The butler replied, "You may if you like." Immediately one of the robbers fired a pistol; the ball from which entered the wall, behind where the butler stood; but he being fortunately armed with a pistol, discharged it at the place where the robbers were, and he had reason to believe it did wound one of them, as he heard a man groan afterwards; and at day-light, blood was traced to the gate. On examining the premises, it was discovered that the doors of the larder and dairy had been broke open, and every thing was packed up ready to be taken away.

On Saturday evening, as the Rev. Dr. Owen and Mr. Stutter, Attorney, both of Stowmarket, Suffolk, were returning home in a one-horse chaise; in passing through St. Matthew's-street, Ipswich, they drove against a cart, which overturned the chaise, and Mr. Stutter was so violently bruised, that he lingered till Sunday evening, and then expired.

A daring depredation was on Saturday evening committed on the Post from Manchester to Oldham. It appears the boy alighted and entered an Inn in Hollingwood, leaving his horse and its load at the door. In the mean time the Oldham bag, containing letters with bills and notes to a considerable amount, was dexterously extricated from the saddle, and carried away.

A deranged woman lately absconded from her friends at Lowther, in Westmoreland. She was at last found in a field house, buried up to the neck in the middle of a hay mow, adjoining the village. She had remained hid there for 18 days without the least sustenance!—Her legs were much swelled, and all the skin was entirely off her feet. When found, she had nearly lost her speech; but by proper attendance has re-recovered its use.

Wednesday last, a private soldier, belonging to the 82d regiment, in the barracks at Brighton, having been sentenced to receive a severe flagellation, for repeated desertion, to avoid the punishment cut his throat; and at the moment the guard entered the apartment in which he was confined, to march him to the halberts, he was found weltering in his blood. He had, however, although the incision in his neck is a very deep one, missed the vital parts, and he is expected to recover.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Foreign Office, January 9.

The King has been pleased to appoint Charles Stuart, Esq. to reside at the Seat of the Provisional Government of Portugal, as his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

S. Clark, Charlotte-street, Rathbone-place, Middlesex, tailor, from Jan. 13 to Feb. 22, at ten, at Guildhall.

W. Jacks, Guildford-street, Blackfriar's-road, corn-dealer, from Jan. 2 to Feb. 20, at ten, at Guildhall.

W. Hett, Leeds, Yorkshire, woolstapler, from Jan. 6 to Feb. 24, at eleven, at the Star and Garter, Leeds.

BANKRUPTS.

G. Simpson, Manchester, victualler. Attorney, Mr. Milne, Manchester.

J. Sevill, Spring-lane, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, cotton-manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Cardwell, Manchester.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, Jan. 13.

Copy of a letter from Captain Arthur, Commander of His Majesty's sloop the Cherokee, to Vice-Admiral Campbell, and transmitted by the latter to John Wilson Croker, Esq.

His Majesty's sloop Cherokee, Downes, Jan. 11.

SIR,—I have the honour to acquaint you, that on reconnoitering Dieppe yesterday, I perceived seven lugger privateers at anchor close together, within a cable's length of the pier head under the batteries; and deeming it, notwithstanding their numbers, practicable to capture or destroy some of them, I this morning, at one o'clock, the wind being Southerly, stood in and perceived the whole seven at anchor, as when reconnoitered; I immediately run between two and laid one on board, which, after a fruitless attempt on the part of the enemy to board the Cherokee, I succeeded in bringing out, and which proves to be the Amiable Nelly, a new lugger of 16 guns, 106 tons, and 60 men.

During the time we were under the batteries, the whole of the privateers kept up a constant fire of musketry; but, I am happy to state, only two were wounded, viz. Lieutenant Gabriel and Mr. James Ralph, Boatswain, both in the hand. The enemy had two killed and eight wounded; three dangerously.

I feel it a duty I owe to my Officers and ship's company to state, their conduct deserves my warmest approbation, for the cool steadiness they shewed, both in attacking the enemy, and during the time we were under the batteries. I have, &c.

R. ARTHUR.

[This Gazette also contains an account of the capture of the French privateer Le Saratu, of 14 guns and 100 men, by the Plover sloop, Captain Brown.]

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

J. Symons, Hungerford-street, Strand, baker, from Jan. 9 to Jan. 23, at ten, at Guildhall.

W. Kirkpatrick, Broad-street-hill, London, merchant, from Jan. 6 to Feb. 24, at ten, at Guildhall.

P. Coren, Chancery-Chambers, Chancery-lane, money-scrivener, from Jan. 13 to March 3, at ten, at Guildhall.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Curtis, Bayswater, Middlesex, dealer and chapman. Attorney, Mr. Bower, Clifford's Inn.

H. York, Carey-lane, Foster-lane, Cheapside, silk-dealer. Attorney, Mr. Battye, Chancery-lane.

P. Upsdell, Castle-street, St. Martin in the Fields, builder. Attorney, Mr. Saunders, Charlotte-street, Rathbone-place.

W. Short and J. Hopper, Clapham, Surrey, carpenters. Attorney, Mr. Ware, Blackman-street, Borough.

E. Asling and J. Cooper, Spa-Road, Bermondsey, merchants. Attorney, Mr. Harman, Wine-Office-court, Fleet-street.

The following Decree was published in the Paris Papers of the 3d instant:

DECREE.

"The ports of France, and all those under her controul, are open for all vessels furnished with proper licenses; that is to say, they must be new ones, of a date posterior to this Decree:

ARTICLES OF EXPORTATION.

"Vinegar, paper, paste-board, silks, embroidered stuffs, verdigreas, oils of all sorts, honey, perfumery, corks cut and in piece, turpentine, Spanish liquorice, dry pitch, rosin, juniper-berry, raw worsted, lamb and kid skins tanned and tawed, linen of Brittany, cloths and woollen stuffs of all kinds, velvets and cottons, silk, worsted, and cotton hosiery, cutlery, trimmings, china, work of leather and skins. These articles cannot be entered in any greater quantity than one-fourth part of the cargo. The other three parts of the cargo are to be composed of primitive articles; those are, corn, wine, brandy, and fruits.

IMPORTATION.

"Russian tallow, wax, matts, sail-cloth, deals for various purposes, sulphur in flour, pot-ash, staves, row for fishing, Spanish dollars, black lead, lead, pewter (litarge), logwood, pitch and tar, barrilla, sumack, arsenic, fish, oil, hides, and lignum vitæ."

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Consols..69½ ex. div. | Red. Ann..... 69 ⅝

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The EXAMINER is much gratified with the hearty good wishes of J. T., Y. Y. Y., and Z. Z. Z.; but, as the publication of an occasional Extra Sheet would have been a matter of little moment, and some trouble to the Proprietors, it was proposed only in case of universal agreement on the part of the Subscribers, and withdrawn immediately on meeting with a few objections. It does appear indeed, that any very interesting Debates in Parliament would have been seen by the majority of Subscribers before the week's end; and generally speaking, even the daily reader is best pleased perhaps with a careful abridgment.

A letter signed DIOGENES has been received in reply to Mr. TEGG, who wraps himself up so comfortably in his good conscience. It asks, firstly, "whether the names of parties have any thing to do with an argument;"—secondly, "whether it was honourable to publish a paltry Life of Mrs. CLARKE with the fictitious name of Miss TAYLOR, which work Miss TAYLOR disowned in the public papers;" thirdly, whether it was honourable to publish a book of stale jokes, write a puff, pay for it's insertion in a Sunday paper, and then advertise the book with this trumped-up character; and fourthly, "whether it is honourable in him to sell imperfect books in his auction (knowing them to be such) and refuse redress to the purchaser," &c. The whole letter would have been published, but Mr. TEGG's quackeries are really unworthy of canvass in the EXAMINER, and he himself had better be quiet. Which of the Sunday Papers it was that admitted Mr. TEGG's puff, I do not know; but this I know, that the advertisement of one of his publications (some of WOODWARD's trash I think) appeared in the Newspapers with a puffing quotation affixed to it, signed "EXAMINER," a piece of knavery that was suffered to pass by at the time from mere contempt, but which ought to be told of this man at a time when he is pretending to fine character, and has the face to come to the EXAMINER with his complaints.

We have not room to notice Mr. ELMES this week, and as to Mr. BRANDON, he is not worth any notice.—CLAUDIO is received, and the EXAMINER thanks him for the accompanying Pamphlet, the Author of which might have become so true an ornament of society, had his practice agreed with his precept.

B. S. J.—THISTLEWOOD,—R. H. C.—"A PAINTER WITH A VINEGAR ASPECT,"—B. B.—and a YOUNG TYPO, have been received.

THE EXAMINER.

London, January 14,

BONAPARTE has relaxed his maritime Decrees, or rather he has issued a new Decree, not abolishing those of Berlin and Milan, but opening the ports of France and Holland to neutral vessels. This is a conciliatory movement towards America, whom he thinks to urge into a war with Great Britain by removing the obstructions to her trade on his part and thereby rendering us more obstinate in preserving them on ours. The Americans, on their side, have threatened to retaliate upon our commerce in case we do not rescind our Orders in Council; this they certainly can do, and it would give a terrible blow to our bloated West Indian traders, but the Ministerial Papers deprecate our yielding at all, because, as matters appear at present, the Berlin and Milan Decrees are not exactly dead, but sleeping. [illegible] ment to keep up the high tone of our maritime power as long as we can keep up its high hand, especially in an age when this is the only power left us; but it never has and it never will do us any good, to make a fine shew of resistance which does nothing but perplex and cramp ourselves. We go to war with America, and what then? All that we shall do against her will be to obstruct her trade in Europe, and to turn her policy to its best and ultimate object, her own shores and inland prosperity: for this we shall cripple our trade to the West, probably lose our Western possessions, and the friendship of the rising nations in South America. These things are unworthy of occupying the attention of a people, like ourselves, whose worst enemies are at home, fomenting petty jealousies to turn away our attention from themselves. We suffer too much personal feeling to interfere in these matters, and BONAPARTE has only to put us in a situation obnoxious to our egotism, to overreach us at any time. Upon a *presumption* on our part that America favoured France, a presumption arising either from personal jealousy or a guilty conscience, we threw every possible obstacle in the way of American trade, as if a neutral power had no right to trade with our enemy, and as if the enemy of England ought *still* to be the natural enemy of America. If we wished to keep up this latter maxim, why did we so stupidly lose America twenty years ago? At *that* time, as well as at present, we had hirelings to praise the Government in all their wretched doings; at that time, as at present, we were told that every waste of blood and treasure, every courtly servility, every flattery of royal prejudice, and every other gross error, was for the best, and we see what the corruption of that time has produced. If the present generation lament those days, the future will have to execrate these.

Part of the Native Troops in India have risen into open rebellion, and seized upon Seringapatam, against which several thousand European troops and some Sepoy regiments are already said to have proceeded. Of the present state of the Coast-Army nothing further is known; and all that yet appears to account for the rebellion of the one and the remonstrances of the other, is the curtailment of their pay, the hints thrown out by Quarter-Master-General MUNRO against the military spirit of the Madras Army in his very injudicious paper, and the exclusion of the Commander in Chief from the Council. The truth is, that the Military Servants of the Company have not only been long jealous of the superior facilities of getting rich, which the Civil Powers enjoyed, and which have been almost three to one; but in spite of the rich crimson sofas and magnificent lustres with which the Persian Ambassador is luxuriated by the East India Directors, the finances of that Honourable Body are not in a condition to keep up the expensive system, by which they were compelled to allure enterprising men from Great Britain; and thus the Military, seeing their prospects degenerate, and despising the gilded vermin who go there to do nothing but bask in

the sun, acquire a temper that will eagerly snatch at opportunities to retaliate. An Indian Governor certainly deserves great praise for retrenching in times like these, but he should take care that he retrenches equally, and at best he is working upon a system, the errors of which are self-produced and must in great measure return upon it's own head. Here we see some more exquisite effects of corruption; but instead of listening to experience, we seem to have contracted a school-boy dislike to a master that lectures us so often, and to commit error in very spite of discipline.

The best thing that has been done in this country, for years past, next to the Inquiry into the Duke of YORK's conduct, is the Petition lately drawn up by the Livery of London, who were unconstitutionally refused admittance to the Royal presence. If this Petition does not make certain persons shake, either their hearts are ossified or their heads stupified beyond all former insensibility.—Some generations ago, we should have said that the Ministers have a terrible account to render before the Parliament; now, we must call it, I suppose, an awkward one. They open the Session, at any rate, with hard weather in their teeth,—the overthrow of Austria, the loss of Spain, the mortality of Walcheren, the indignant remonstrance of the City of London. They have hawked about the Government Offices, even in this age of office hunting, like so many quack medicines from door to door; they have beaten about for recruits to serve his MAJESTY, and found even their old acquaintances too sober to enlist; and at last, Lord MELVILLE himself treats their insinuating offers with contempt, for this is the plain English of the correspondence between Mr. PERCEVAL and his Lordship. The *Courier*, who utters the most stupid contradictions with the profoundest face imaginable, would have us believe, that *because* Mr. R. S. DUNDAS consented to accept another office in lieu of the Irish Secretaryship, Mr. PERCEVAL wrote a letter to Lord MELVILLE telling him how highly his MAJESTY thought of his talents, but professing his reluctant obligation to "defer" to the *mistaken* prejudices respecting his Lordship, and in fine, offering him an Earldom. We see the fact at once. PERCEVAL wished to have the benefit of Lord MELVILLE's talents, without incurring any more popular odium by introducing him directly into the Ministry; Lord MELVILLE will not be the tool of the man, and though the *Courier* assures us that he did not announce, as persons have asserted, "his *entire* disapprobation of *most* of the leading acts of Mr. PERCEVAL's Administration," yet he evidently gave him a few stinging fillips about his sneaking measures, and flatly refused the Earldom. Such is the present state of the British Ministry, openly despised by the most unprotected of their enemies, taunted by their former friends, and divided among themselves. If Parliament cannot overthrow these men, the very rats may creep out of the wainscot and gambol before their faces upon the table.

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For the present, BONAPARTE has contented himself with seizing part of Holland, the Province of Zealand. Accounts from Holland state, that a Proclamation for incorporating Zealand with France had been received from Paris. The possession of Zealand makes BONAPARTE master of the mouths of the Scheldt and the Maes, and in fact of the whole trade of Holland.

The *Moniteur* contains the following paragraph:—"After the fall of Gerona, nothing remains, either in the East or West of Spain, which can give any effectual opposition to the progress of the victorious forces of his Majesty the Emperor. In Madrid the love of the people seems fixed and decided. The King has raised a body-guard of Spaniards, who are zealous in his service. The English army, as before, remain doing nothing at Badajos. The English boasted that Lord WELLINGTON was an active enterprising officer; *but, like General* CHATHAM, *he now seems fast asleep.*"

The Budget of Mr. GALLATIN is a lamentable proof of the departure of America from the principle of economy, on which she hitherto has acted. The seeds of corruption have, we greatly fear, already been scattered in that only remaining seat of freedom. Even the remarkable events that have recently occurred in Europe, are less calculated to excite surprise, than the announced probability of the United States being compelled to resort to the despicable and ruinous system of borrowing. For the last seven years the prosperity of America—the increase of her revenue—and the extinction of her debt, have been subjects of annual triumph.—Yet, in 1810, with the example of England before her eyes, America is about to open the flood-gates of corruption to "Loan-mongers!" As yet, the emigrations from England have been chiefly from those classes who could no longer exist in their native land, in consequence of the effect of this very system, which is about to be adopted in America. Farewell, a long, an eternal farewell, to the happiness of that land, in which the funding, taxing, banking, jobbing, fighting system, once gets footing. What has America to do with war? If the kingdoms of Europe prefer bloodshed and slaughter to peace, why should America involve herself as a party in their madness?—Has not America the means, the ample, nay, boundless means, of comfort and happiness, within the bosom of her own territory? What a despicable race must be the Americans if they any longer hesitate to refuse all intercourse with the belligerent disturbers of Europe! But the commerce of America—Shall America submit to the privation of her commerce?—What society of human beings can ever hope for independence—what society indeed ever deserved the enjoyment of that blessing—whose restless cupidity—whose insatiable avarice, leads them to the most remote regions in pursuit of wealth, while they neglect the blessings, the comforts, and the happiness which nature has placed before their eyes at home. The exchange of the products of the various climes of this globe was the origin, and is the only natural, reasonable, and legitimate object of commerce. The various soil and climate of America are adequate to, perhaps, every production that contributes to human comfort and human happiness; and if she now prefer wars, taxes, loans, and the funding system, to independence and happiness, we may be justified in drawing the melancholy conclusion, that America has fought and bled to obtain that independence which she knows not how to enjoy.—*Statesman.*

The extra India ships Monarch, Lord Keith, and Earl Spencer, arrived off Portsmouth, on the 7th inst. under convoy of his Majesty's ship Princess Charlotte. The Lord Keith (having separated from the Monarch and Earl Spencer, in the course of the vayage) off Cape Lagullas, fell in with a prize brig from the Island of Bourbon, and boarded her, and received an account of the surrender of that settlement to a British force, upon the 21st of September, under the command of Commodore Rowley. Information was also received of the re-capture of the Streatham and Europe, which were found riding there, together with the French frigate Caroline. The two former had been given up to their respective Commanders. The Europe was dispatched to Bombay, and the Streatham had arrived at the Cape of Good Hope along with the Caroline, with the collected savings of both ships' cargoes.

The Governor of Isle Bourbon shot himself on the surrender of that place, leaving a written paper behind him. The following is a translation of the paper in question:—

"I do not wish to be a traitor to my country; I do not wish to sacrifice inhabitants to the useless defence of a colony opened to the enemy; according to the con-equences which I foresee from the hatred and ambition of some individuals attached to a revolutionary sect, death awaits me on the scaffold. I prefer giving it to myself. I recommend my wife and my children to Providence, and to those whose souls have sensibility."

Wednesday Earl Camden presented a Petition to his Majesty for a licence or patent to erect a new Theatre in the City of London.

On Monday evening Mr. Cooke made his appearance on the stage, and was received of course by an angry audience, whom he addressed in the most earnest manner, intreating forgiveness for his late improper conduct. This apology was admitted, upon the whole, as satisfactory, and Mr. Cooke was permitted to proceed.—When intoxication is thus excused, if not encouraged by the public, we shall expect disappointments and apologies as regularly as the drawing up of the curtain.—Mr. Cooke has repeatedly insulted the Public in the grossest manner; and the Public ought to shew their high displeasure at the indecency of such behaviour. Such conduct would not be tolerated in any other performer; and we really can see no one reason why Mr. Cooke should be thus sheltered and countenanced.

At three o'clock on Friday morning, an alarming fire broke out at Dover, which burnt furiously for some hours, and has totally destroyed the London Inn; by the immediate arrival of the engines, and prompt aid of the troops in the garrison, the conflagration was fortunately prevented from spreading.

On Friday three young ladies, nieces of the Hon. Mrs. Cavendish Bradshaw, very narrowly escaped being drowned in the Serpentine River. The young Ladies were taking an airing in a *vis à-vis*, and the coachman was driving towards the upper end along the strand, and close to the water's edge; but as he advanced, he found the ground towards the water becoming rather steep, and attempted to turn about; in doing which, he was obliged to drive through the water about three yards from the edge. In this attempt, the horses were suddenly immersed almost beyond their depth, and the carriage was overset. The young Ladies were in the utmost danger: but the footman and coachman plunging into the water nearly to their necks, extricated them from the carriage, and carried them safe on shore.

The following article has been sent to us for insertion:—"The workmen employed for Government by Mr. Copeland to erect barracks in the Isle of Walcheren, and who returned to the river Thames the 20th December, are now in the greatest distress for want of their wages.—Poor labouring mechanics with large families—whose indigence compelled them to sign an agreement for their temporary transportation—who have endured all the horrors of that unwholesome climate—whose pay commenced 9th October, 1809, have received no final settlement beyond the 30th of that month—and while on the Island, after repeated applications to Colonel Pilkington, only partial relief of a single dollar at a time.—Mr. Copeland is an honourable paymaster to his own workmen, but refuses to advance a shilling beyond what he has already done towards the support of many of their families during their absence. The agreement of these distressed Artificers was only signed by Mr. C. recommending them to be employed by government; and their present necessity is occasioned by the disgraceful delay in that department, where their demands should have been immediately discharged."

Otaheite.—From letters lately received from Huaheine, an Island in the South Seas, and from Sydney, New South Wales, it appears, that in consequence of a very serious war which had broken out in Otaheite; the greater part of the missionaries had thought it necessary for their safety to retire to a neighbouring island, about 16 leagues distant. Four still remained at Otaheite, but were expected soon to follow. The war, it is said, will in all probability end in the dissolution of Pomarre's Government, and the total overthrow of his authority.

Five *Professional Bruizers*, says an Observer, have been lately licensed as *Publicans*, namely, *Gully*, *Gregson*, *Ward*, *Daniel Mendoza*, and *Richmond the Black*. How far this is beneficial to the public is left to the serious consideration of the *Magistracy*.

It is not in the least surprising that *burglaries* are so frequent in the metropolis, when the wretched state of the system of watching is duly considered. It is a well known fact, that in many parishes aged and very infirm men are selected for this duty, merely to save the expence of keeping them in the *workhouse*.

If the following paragraph, which appeared in several of the Papers, be correct, the *City Police* cannot be complimented for its activity:—On Saturday evening the pickpockets and hustlers were unusually busy in plundering the gazers at the different pastry shops in the city. *Tit Shields*, a returned transport, was at the head of a gang in Fleet-street. *Bob Barney* and *Bill Wood* commanded a detachment at the pastry-cooks' in St. Paul's Churchyard; the cake-shops of Cheapside were closely besieged by another party, under the direction of *Alick Dew* and *Harry Woodford*; while the *Rifle Corps* of the Poultry and Cornhill performed their manœuvres under the immediate superintendence of the notorious *Joe Hough* and *Ned Ellis*.

Ann Moore, of Tutbury, aged 52, whose extraordinary case of living without food excited so much interest some months back, still continues to exist in the same astonishing manner. She takes a spoonful or two of water in the course of a month. Her lower extremities are quite exhausted. She looks well in the face, her spirits are good, and she converses cheerfully and rationally. The last food she took was in March 1807.

The Public continue to support Colonel WARDLE against all the wretched calumnies with which he has been and is assailed. At Liverpool, a meeting was held on Wednesday last, when upwards of 200*l.* were immediately subscribed. At Stamford, too, fifty-two honest fellows have just subscribed their "mites, towards helping to remunerate the Patriot WARDLE for the many expences which have been brought upon him by his noble, manly, and spirited conduct in exposing corruption."

GENERAL BILL OF CHRISTENINGS AND BURIALS, FROM DECEMBER 13, 1808, TO DECEMBER 12, 1809.

Christened in the 97 Parishes within the Walls, 1013—Buried 1220.

Christened in the 17 Parishes without the Walls, 4608—Buried 3510.

Christened in the 23 Out-Parishes in Middlesex and Surrey, 9935—Buried 7866.

Christened in the 10 Parishes in the City and Liberties of Westminster, 4056—Buried 4054.

Christened Males 9981, Females 9631—In all 19,612.
Buried Males 8636, Females 8044—In all 16,680.

Decrease in the Burials this year, 3274.

Sittings appointed in Middlesex and London, before Sir JAMES MANSFIELD, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, at Westminster, in and after Hilary term, 1810:—

IN TERM.

MIDDLESEX.		LONDON.	
Wednesday -	Jan. 24	Thursday -	Jan. 25
Thursday -	Feb. 1	Friday -	Feb. 2
Tuesday - -	6	Wednesday -	7

AFTER TERM.

Tuesday -	Feb. 13	Wednesday -	Feb. 14

PARLIAMENT AND MINISTERS.

The following are the passages in the last *Edinburgh Review*, alluded to in a former Paper:—

"The Parliament of England is about to assemble once more; and the authors of our calamities cannot prevent their conduct from being at least brought before that illustrious tribunal. Hitherto they have not made any defence; nor have they even hinted that they have any to make. They have admitted all their failures to be complete and fatal; they have confessed, that the opportunities which they have lost will in all likelihood never return. After a few wretched attempts to divide the blame among themselves, in shares different from those in which the country is disposed to apportion it, they have been compelled to allow that among themselves it must all be divided, and upon them alone must the resposibility rest. They have not dared to deny, that the prospects of the Continent are become more dismal than ever; that its confidence in England is gone; that the map of Europe, from Moscow to Paris, and from Lapland to Calabria, offers to the eye a collection of states, aggrandized by hostility, or ruined by the perilous bounty of her alliance. Abroad and at home—which way soever the eye can turn, our rulers have amply admitted, that our affairs are only not desperate, and have themselves come forward to declare, that the empire is reduced to a state of difficulty, from which there can be at least no precedent of its ever having escaped in former times. And after all these confessions, their only excuse, the only attempt they make to regain the confidence of the people, is to tell us, '*that the King has reigned fifty years.*' They have ruined our allies; they have failed in every plan; they have brought us through slaughter and disgrace, loaded with ignominy, and weighed down with almost intolerable burthens—to the very brink of destruction;—'*but the King is very old*', and '*he has reigned above half a century.*'

"It now remains to be seen, whether that Parliament, which stands in no need of reformation—which is a fair representative of the people of England—which speaks the sentiments of the country—will be satified with this set off, and once more acquit the Ministers of all blame for their recent mismanagement. Holding, in common with the Parliament itself, the doctrine of its purity and of its sufficiency to save the state, we cannot anticipate such a decision. But if, unhappily, we should find ourselves mistaken; if, again, every measure and every Minister be covered over with its approbation, then we will venture to predict, not that the Government is acquitted, but that Parliament stands condemned; and *we shall most unwillingly be compelled to appear in the foremost ranks of those who must acknowledge that they are convinced and unconverted.* For it needless to disguise the matter. A refusal to punish the authors of our misfortunes can only mean one of two things—either that there has been no blame incurred—or that it is inexpedient to declare it, because such a resolution would drive the guilty persons from the Government. In the one case, the *Parliament will show that it is not the Representative of the Country*; in the other, *we shall have the conclusive proof that the Ministers of the Crown are irremoveable.* The responsibility of our Rulers, that fairest feature in the theory of the Constitution, will be no longer even a name wherewithal to round parliamentary periods; and the People will *thenceforth recognize, in the Great Council of the Nation, not the Guardians of their Interests and the Champions of their Rights*, BUT A WELL CONTRIVED INSTRUMENT OF TAXATION.

"The consequence of such a decision, therefore, will be productive of incalculable mischief; it will complete the alienation of the Country from the Government, and shame away the boldest defenders of the present system. In the mean time, the pressure of the war, and of the public burthens, will rapidly increase; the scene of hostilities will approach to our own shores; and the taxes, which, like the war, have as yet only been felt at a distance, will at length come to every man. This truth will then break upon the minds of all, even of the most confiding and inconsiderate—the truth with which we opened the present discussion—that there is an intimate and necessary connection between the foreign policy of the State and the happiness of each individual within its boundaries; that every man who pays taxes—every man who values the security of his property, or his own future safety from foreign dominion, is immediately affected by the mismanagement of the war; that not a plan falls to the ground, not a bad appointment of Commander or Ambassador is made at Court, nor an opportunity of beating the enemy in councils, or in arms, is lost, without our being, a little sooner or a little later, individually sensible of it. What will then remain for the People to do, we need scarcely point out. If they value their personal happiness and national independence, they will watch over their Rulers with redoubled jealousy, and never rest satisfied until their efforts shall have restored the indisputable connection between misrule and retribution."

FINE ARTS.

ARTISTS' FUND.

The following letter, attested at the Office by several Artists of unimpeachable integrity, discloses a presumptuous attempt of two Artists and a *Lawyer* to dictate to the respectable body of untitled Artists, by withholding the Resolutions of their Committee, suspending their business, endeavouring to palm on them a plan of their own, creating disgust and division among them, and, in fine, by endeavouring to become permanent dictators in the concern. The EXAMINER, therefore, readily inserts it, to put the different Professors of Art on their guard at their next meeting, and to forward so indispensible and beneficial an establishment as the ARTISTS' FUND:—

R. H.

MR. EDITOR,—At a Meeting of the Engravers, convened at the Gray's Inn Coffee-house, it was proposed that a FUND should be established for the BENEFIT OF ARTISTS, THEIR WIDOWS, AND CHILDREN. At the second Meeting it was determined that such a Fund should be raised, and a Committee was appointed to arrange a plan for carrying into effect the intentions agreed upon. On the 10th inst. a General Meeting was called, and it was most certainly the universal opinion that the Regulations resolved upon by the Committee would have been laid before this Meeting. Mr. VALENTINE GREEN was voted to the Chair, when, strange to tell, this respectable Gentleman went through a very long speech, proposing plans of his own, without once alluding to the former proceedings, or supposing that any Committee had been appointed, notwithstanding the whole of its Members were then present; and he concluded by moving a Resolution, that such a Fund was necessary, although, as I have before said, at a former Meeting this was determined upon, and a Committee appointed to carry it into execution.

Amongst the Regulations proposed by Mr. GREEN, was one that wears a most suspicious aspect, which was, that Governors should be appointed who should possess *discretionary powers*, and *to whose continuance in office no limits were proposed*,—This shameful proposition seemed to be supported by one of the Committee, who, although he had acted with the other Members up to that moment, and was understood by the rest of them to have *their joint plan in his pocket*, now coalesced with Mr. GREEN and his party to suppress the whole proceedings of that Committee! Fortunately a Gentleman was present who possessed information that enabled him successfully to develope the whole truth. The majority of the Committee, it appeared, had been taken as much by surprise as the rest of the Meeting; but one of them immediately stood up, and in a simple and manly manner stated all that had passed. This plain statement opened the eyes of the company, and drew down a sufficient portion of indignation on the party which had so dared to insult honourable men and impose on a General Meeting of their Brethren.

My opinion is, that a Benefit Fund for the Artists in general ought to be formed on the following simple principles:—Firstly, That all its Members stand upon the grounds of equality; Secondly, That contributions and benefits should universally be equal; Thirdly, That every contributor should be eligible to every office, and that there should be no temptation for any man to get into power; but on the contrary, that the offices should rather become a burthen than an advantage, and that the Members should be forced into them by fines, rather than be prompted to seek them by the expectation of power, emolument, and honours; and such appeared to be the leading features of the Plan proposed by the Committee. Upon these simple principles have been founded all the Benefit Societies which have continued long to flourish, and have afforded so great a benefit to individuals and society at large, and which time and experience have proved to be the only foundations on which such Societies can exist and hold together.

AN ARTIST.

THEATRICAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—The late awful destruction of the two Theatres by fire,—the wonderful and almost magic celerity with which that of Covent-Garden has been rebuilt,—together with the tumultuous proceedings that attended the opening this suberb Temple of the Drama, have aroused the Public, in some measure, from their apathy regarding histrionic affairs. The interest thus excited, will, I hope, be kept alive after its progenitors have ceased to influence: and now that the contests about the prices of admission, and the decorations of the Theatre, are settled, it will, I trust, be directed to the *solid* improvement of the Drama. I have now a gleam of hope that our modern playwrights will be no longer tolerated,—and I already anticipate a serious reformation in theatrical amusement.

With a view of promoting the attainment of this desirable end, I shall notice a shameful neglect that has hitherto prevailed, and which I am surprized has not before met with reprehension;—I allude to the mangled, careless, and hurried manner, in which our best farces are almost invariably represented.—In this deplorable style of performance, the plot becomes unintelligible, and the exquisite "cunning of the scene" is often destroyed—by the appropriation of bad actors to excellent parts; and thus, what in our closets pleased us as a sportive and brilliant little offering to Thalia, appears on the stage a miserable, unconnected farrago of nonsense.

Attracted by the feast of wit promised in the announcement of GARRICK's "*Bon Ton*," or MURPHY's "*Three Weeks after Marriage*," I have been drawn to the Theatre, and compelled to endure the absurdities of DIBDIN, or CHERRY, in order to secure a place to witness the farce. After this patient suffering, Mr. Editor, conceive my disappointment, at finding the thing from which I had anticipated so much pleasure shamefully curtailed, and in every respect (to use a technical phrase) murdered. And this too, after seeing the greatest solicitude and exactness manifested in the performance of the most wretched trash. What a mortification! Mrs. BROOKS's charming little Pastoral Opera of *Rosina*, uniformly meets with this barbarous treatment; and the music of it suffers the same degradation, from indifferent execution, and injudicious omissions.

I think it must be obvious to every one of dramatic reading, that our reputation in this species of literature has derived no inconsiderable accession from the wit and ability that have been displayed in our minor pieces; and under this impression I am anxious to do justice to the posthumous fame of their authors, by endeavouring to rescue them from the stage neglect they have so oft encountered. I am, Sir, most obediently yours,

Jan. 8. 1810. C. O.

DANCING ACADEMIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR, *January* 12, 1810.

In your last number you inserted some strictures upon the Academies lately instituted for providing the Opera

House with young Dancers of both sexes, in which some names were mentioned, which I wish to rescue from the undeserved attack which your Correspondent, in his zeal for the purity of public manners, has been induced to make. Amongst those persons, I was sorry to see the name of Mr. D'Egville, as, from the most strict enquiries which I have made, I am satisfied that his institution for teaching Dancing to young persons of both sexes has always been conducted upon the strictest principles of morality; and that of all his pupils, not one, either male or female, has ever, either directly or indirectly, behaved in a way to deserve the public censure. Indeed Miss Gayton, whom your young Correspondent has, with such perfect ease to himself, accused of "having lost all the native modesty of her childhood," is an evident proof that the figurantes alluded to have not had that influence on Mr. D'Egville's pupils which it is insinuated they were likely to have; since that amiable woman, who is now in a respectable rank in society, can no more have that charge brought against her with justice, than any woman who dances at a public ball. There is one point of view in which we may consider Mr. D'Egville's Institution, Mr. Editor, that may perhaps entitle it to some favour; which is, that it tends to procure for some of the poorest classes of society the means of earning their livelihood; and of proving to the admirers and supporters of foreigners, that England, without resorting to foreign countries, can produce as good Dancers as any country in the world, not excepting Imperial France. A Constant Reader.

MR. WARDLE.

(FROM THE TIMES.)

We learn from the following letter addressed by Mrs. Clarke to the Public, that she is repeating her threat of fresh publications, and probably with the same view as before:—

"MRS. CLARKE TO THE PUBLIC.

"A candid and Impartial Appeal to the Public will be submitted in a short time, and a statement of facts, accompanied with letters written by Messrs. Dodd, Hague, Wardle, M'Callum, Illingworth, and Glennie, some of which should have been read on the Investigation, others in the Defence on the Trial on the 11th of December, but which were suppressed (it is said) out of delicacy to the feelings of certain Personages in the Court that day. This consideration (in my opinion) ought not to have had any influence in a Court of Justice, more especially when the personal safety of three individuals were in such imminent peril, and the character, reputation, and future welfare of their families so deeply involved. Under these circumstances, nothing ought to have been smothered, or cloathed in mystery; and it is hoped, that if any doubts can yet remain, final decision will be suspended until the appearance of this Statement, in which Mr. Wardle's politics and patriotism shall have fairness and publicity shewn them, by

"*King's-road, Jan. 9.*" "Mary Ann Clarke."

We shall remark upon the above, that we are extremely anxious these documents should be produced; though we are very suspicious that it is not really the intention of the writer to produce them; for, if the delicacy of the feelings of certain personages in Court was to be consulted on the trial, we are apprehensive that those personages will consult their own feelings, by purchasing the suppression of the threatened publication.

The oral testimony of Mrs. Clarke is of we know what value: her written documents are entitled to credit. It was these that brought the affair of the Duke of York to its consummation. The notes and letters of his Royal Highness and others to this Lady, upon military matters, clearly proved her acknowledged interference and influence in the affairs of the army. If she had never spoken one word at the bar; nay, if she had been dead, and this correspondence found in her scrutoire, and laid before the House of Commons after her death, the result must have been precisely the same. We are willing likewise to allow the force of this doctrine, in the case of the announced correspondence, if it is unsophisticated; but who is to examine the genuineness of these letters with the severity which was exercised upon those relating to the Duke of York? However, one is already given as a specimen, the want of which upon the trial we do most sincerely regret; as it entirely acquits Colonel Wardle of having entered into any engagement to defray Wright's bill, and exhibits him as an intercessor with the upholsterer in behalf of Mrs. Clarke, his debtor. We strongly invite the public attention to this letter, and more especially to the passages which we have marked in Italics:—

"LETTER FROM G. L. WARDLE, ESQ. TO J. GLENNIE, ESQ.

(Copy) "*Eight o'clock, Saturday Morning.*

"My Dear Sir,—Will you, after seeing Mr. Wright, the upholsterer, Rathbone-place, meet Major Dodd and myself at Fladong's Hotel, about a quarter before twelve o'clock?

"I hope you will be able to prevail upon Mr. Wright *to let Mrs. Clarke know* that he will be satisfied to wait till the end of the next month. Do urge to him the impossibility of its being arranged, as was proposed through the medium of the Bookseller, without our committing Mrs. C. and ourselves, which, assure him, would be of consequence fatal in an extreme he cannot conjecture. *The great object is, that Mrs. C.'s mind should be rendered perfectly easy;* and if Mr. W. will do so, I shall feel myself much obliged, and not unmindful of his attention to such my wishes (and anxious ones they are!) upon the subject.

"Your's, my dear Sir, ever faithfully,

"*To James Glennie, Esq.*" "Gm. Ll. Wardle."

Colonel Wardle's great object was then (a most proper one by the way), that Mrs. Clarke's mind should be easy in relation to Wright's bill; and why, we ask, why should it be uneasy, if Colonel Wardle was answerable for the amount? Wright, it appears then past the possibility of contradiction, *was pestering Mrs. Clarke for the money*, and Mr. Glennie's intercession was used to set Mrs. Clarke's mind at ease, by letting *her* know that Wright would wait till the end of the month. What, we again ask, had *she* to do with Wright's waiting, if Colonel Wardle was the debtor? No one, therefore, can deny, but that this letter, produced now at last we apprehend by Mrs. Clarke herself, entirely acquits Colonel Wardle of the imputed engagement to furnish her house; for if he had made himself responsible, Mrs. Clarke's mind would have been perfectly at ease on that subject.

Before we conclude, we shall say a few words upon the part which we have, we trust honourably, taken in these proceedings. Of Colonel Wardle we know nothing; we never either spoke to or had communication with him in any other mode in our lives. But this we do know, that, had it not been for his exertions, above twenty Publishers

would now have been lingering in various prisons, perhaps remote ones, for saying *that*, in relation to the Duke of York, which has since appeared substantiated by the most undoubted documents. Nor is our gratitude for this less of a private and personal, than of a public and patriotic nature: for, so chilling would have been the example of the vengeance inflicted upon those Publishers, that we apprehend the British Press, the bulwark of all our liberties, would, in future, have been as mute to the grievances of the country, be they of what nature they might, as those of Amsterdam, Madrid, or any other capital, where the odious tyrant of the Continent exercises his most despotic sway: and do we owe this man nothing for benefits like these?

There is another circumstance likewise connected with the permanent good of the country, which must result from affording Colonel Wardle all due and fair support; and we shall afford him no other. From the moment that this gentleman first meddled with public abuses, he has been so vilified, hunted down, and slandered, that no public man in future, let abuses attain whatsoever pitch, will ever venture to expose himself to similar persecution in the detection and arrest of them, provided they exist in the most fatal of all departments—those over which men of elevated rank preside: and surely this would be a calamitous state of things, that the public should view abuses in silent sorrow, and no one dare to interfere in the suppression of them, from the previous conviction that, be the result of his endeavours what it may, he will certainly involve himself in ruin. It is impossible that Colonel Wardle, or any other being that ever wore the human shape, can be a twenty thousandth part so wicked as he has been represented by the prints under the influence of Government; yet, had he been as virtuous and as pure, as virtue and purity could make him, he would, by meddling with the abuses of the late Commander in Chief's Office, have sustained precisely the same treatment from the same creatures; and so will any other man that attempts to befriend his country, in points where persons of high rank are interested in injuring it.

THE PERSIAN AMBASSADOR.

On Thursday the Directors of the East India Company gave an entertainment to his Excellency Mirza Abul Hassan, the Persian Envoy. The ball-room of the City of London Tavern was fitted up in a style of oriental magnificence. A transparent painting, representing the Kings of Persia and Great Baitain seated on their thrones, was exhibited in the room. Among the visitors were—

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Marquis Wellesley, Earl of Liverpool, Right Hon. Richard Ryder, Lord Mulgrave, the Master of the Rolls, Lord Lowther, Right Hon. Robert Dundas, Lord Radstock, Sir Sidney Smith, the Attorney and Solicitor Generals, the Governor and Deputy Governor of the Bank, Claude Henry Thornton, Esq. &c. &c.

The Persian Envoy arrived at half past six, attended by Sir Gore Ouseley. Half an hour passed in the forms of introduction, and the usual interchange of compliments, when the company proceeded to the ball-room, and took their seats, the band playing a grand march. Between the removal of the cloth and placing the desert upon the table, the Chairman gave "The King," which was received with enthusiam, and succeeded by the National Anthem of "God save the King." A number of sentiments and toasts were successively given, among which were:—

"The Queen and Royal Family."—"The Prince and Princess of Wales."—"The King of Persia."—And "The *natural* Union between Persia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland."

After the health of the Persian Ambassador had been drank, Lord Wellesley stated, that he was charged by his Excellency to offer his acknowledgments for the honour paid first to his Monarch and next to himself; he gloried in avowing the truth of the toast which he gave—the *Natural* Union of Persia and Great Britain. He trusted *Persia* would long remain *the Bulwark*, to guard the interests of Great Britain and of the East India Company.

The Persian Ambassador then gave—

"The East India Company."

Upon Lord Wellesley giving the health of the Chairman, and the prosperity of the East India Company, the Chairman returned thanks for himself, and added his sincere conviction that the prosperity of the Company and of the Country were so united that they would never be severed.

"In this splendid display of hospitality (says the *Post*), the East India Company endeavoured to vie with his Majesty's Ministers, in shewing every token of respect to the Representative of the Persian Monarch."

CITY.

COMMON HALL.

On Tuesday a Common Hall was held for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, on the Address voted by the Livery to his Majesty.—The Lord Mayor, having taken his seat on the hustings, stated the purpose for which they were assembled; and requested that in the subsequent discussion, they would give every Gentleman impartial hearing.

The Clerk then proceeded to read the Report of the Sheriffs, which stated, that the Remembrancer had called at the Secretary of State's Office with the Address, and an intimation that it was intended to present it on the Levee day. Next day he was told that it must be left at the Secretary of State's Office, to be presented by him to his Majesty. On the levee day, the Lord Mayor told the Secretary of State, that he then had the Address in his pocket, and wished to present it. The Secretary said it was best to give it to him, and he would save the Lord Mayor all farther trouble; to which his Lordship replied, that he would not consent to present it to any one except to the King in person; and that it was both the wish of himself and the Sheriffs to do it in any way which would save his Majesty most trouble. The Secretary said, the King's pleasure had been already taken and expressed as to the mode of presenting it. Mr. Sheriff Wood then demanded an audience of his Majesty, which the Secretary replied could not be granted, except upon some especial and expressed reason, and that no audience could be granted on a subject upon which his Majesty had already expressed his pleasure.—Such was the Report to receive which the Hall had been called.

Mr. Favell said, that the strongest feature by which despotism was distinguished from a free government, was a free communication between the subject and the Sovereign—an open and easy approach to the Throne. Such was the right which they were that day assembled to assert; and without which, their Constitution could not be distinguished from a despotism. (*Applause.*) Every friend to the country must be anxious to see that right established—every friend to the King must have a similar feeling. And he alone was the best friend to the country, and the most loyal subject to the King, who

wished to extricate both from evil and dangerous councils. (*Applause.*) Bad men would, of course, raise a cry against this doctrine; and bad Ministers, as was natural, would deprecate enquiry—they would shrink behind the Throne, and represent those who were dissatisfied with their conduct, and dared to speak out, as hostile to the government, and unfriendly to the established order of things;—but was it, he would ask, hostile and unfriendly to sympathise with those brave men, whose blood had been cruelly and unnecessarily spilt?—men who had ever been forward to serve the interests of their country; and who, in no one instance, had ever deserted or disgraced its standard? (*Applause.*) The man who could and would offer such sympathy was the best friend to the Constitution. When he used the word Constitution, he did not mean to use it in the *petit-maitre* sense which men were fond of who lived by abusing it, and who were ever ready to exclaim against those who wish to restore it to its primitive purity. Were such men real friends to the Constitution? Would they have established King William on the Throne of England? Would they have struggled for the Hanoverian succession? Would they have shed their blood upon the scaffold on which a Sydney and a Russell suffered? (*Loud Applause.*) He would now read some of his Resolutions, but before he began, he wished to save them and himself some trouble, by asking whether they would wish to have their Address presented, as usual, to the Sheriffs, and printed in the daily newspapers, or would they have it sent to the Office of the Secretary of State?—To this latter proposition an universal negative was instantly given; upon which Mr. Favell said he should then only read the Resolutions which he judged necessary, and was sure they would be supported by every man who was favourable to those principles which had placed his Majesty's Family upon the Throne (*loud applause.*) Mr. Favell then read his resolutions, and retired.

Mr. JONES seconded the Resolutions; and the first Resolution being read,

Mr. WAITHMAN said, he was anxious to present himself thus early to the Hall for the purpose of correcting some misconceptions which had gone abroad with respect to what had fallen from him on a late occasion. He had alluded to some Noble families who had received much money from sums appropriated to the public expenditure. These sums had been certainly much mis-stated, partly by the reporter, and, as was most likely, partly from misconception by himself. He wished now to take the opportunity of explaining that which he intended to have stated on the last day. He intended to say, that there were certain families in England who received 50,000l. per annum out of the public taxes, and that the families of Hertford and Castlereagh participated in this receipt to the amount of 40,000l. annually. These two families were nearly connected, and he meant to state them at the time as one family, whereas it had got into the newspapers that he had said each family derived such a sum in separate profit. He had, indeed, stated, that the families of Hertford and Castlereagh received for offices, executed chiefly by deputy, 31,000l. per annum. This intelligence he had derived from the public prints, and there was no one in the Hall who could not form an opinion from the same source as himself. When he had mentioned the share which Lord Castlereagh had of such sum, he, of course, was to be understood as not imputing to him the participation in such share after he had retired from office. He had been also stated to have said, that Mr. Perceval's family received 60,000l. a year, whereas all he meant to have imputed to it was the receipt of *only* 46,000l. He had thought proper to make this public statement, because he could not conceive that any shame could possibly attach to a man for retracting an error of which he had been convinced.—The right of the Livery of London to present their Petitions to his Majesty upon the Throne had never been denied; it had been, indeed, waved at their last meeting, and consented to, to present it at the Levee. Even this, it seems, had now been refused, and the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs had been solicited by the Secretary of State to let it be sent through his office; this they very properly refused to comply with, as, had it lain there, most probably that would have been the end of it. He had heard from a Freeholder of Middlesex, that a Petition from that county had been offered in a similar way, about four or five years ago: nothing was heard of it for above a year, until at last, on a change of Ministry, it was found in the Secretary's Office, with the seal unbroken, just as it had been sent there—(*a laugh*). The reason of this apparent neglect was asked, and the answer was, that the King had now, on account of the defect of his sight, disused public levees, and that it would be contrary to etiquette to have it presented in any other way. Such of course would be the fate which their Petition would meet with, if it was presented in a similar manner. The question then to-day was, whether they would give up the right of petitioning altogether; for surely such a right would merely be nominal, if, when inquiry was demanded why our brave men were sacrificed, and our treasure wasted, such demand was to be dormant until a change of Ministry, or until the men who had caused such waste and sacrifice had totally ruined the country.—(*Applause*). He could not well persuade himself that he was not living in the reign of Charles the Second, instead of that of George the Third, such was the similarity. In Charles's time, all those who wished to petition the Crown were branded by an incapable Ministry *as enemies to the Constitution*, and so they were now. In those times the Parliament were, indeed, the staunch friends of the people; they reprobated and prosecuted all those who denied the right of petitioning the Throne for their being convened, and even went so far as to enact the following Resolution against one of their own Members, who had procured addresses to be presented, expressing an abhorrence of the exercise or assumption of such right:—"Resolved, That it has appeared that Sir F. Williams has betrayed the undoubted rights of the people, and accordingly he is expelled the House for this high offence."—(*Loud applause*). That Parliament was, of course, found rather inconvenient to the Ministry of the day, and, as was the case with a late Parliament, was immediately dissolved. What a wonderful similarity was this! Then, however, in that Hall, the Citizens of London were staunch friends to the country; and in their re-election of Common Councilmen, selected those who had served them faithfully, thanked them for their conduct, and declared their determination to stand by them to the last shilling of their fortunes, and the last drop of their blood. (*Loud and general applause*). An awful silence succeeded—it was the silence which forewarned the eruption of the volcano—the Revolution followed; a bad King was driven from his Throne, and deserted by those very Loyalists who would support the Throne by treachery to the people, and prop the Constitution by nourishing its abuses. (*Applause*). If the patriots of those times had so much trouble to defend their rights, how must that trouble be increased now, beset as they were by an army of tax-gatherers, both high and low, living on the people? The only way was to stremuously assert their privileges, and establish once more their interest in the country, by banishing the host of tax-gatherers and the *Inquisition of the Property Tax*. (*Applause*). Let bad men be driven from power, and a stand made by Parliament against corruption, and then the people might again have confidence. Let no violence create alarm; but let firmness unite with moderation, and the manly independence of Englishmen boldly assert their privileges! He gave his hearty assent to all the propositions.

The three first Resolutions were then put and carried unanimously.

The Resolution was then put which declared that those who had advised his Majesty to refuse to receive their petitions, were guilty of a scandalous breach of their duty, and a violation of the Constitution. (There was only one hand held up against it, which, we understand, was that of the Son of Mr. Deputy Kemble.—This single opposition to the general voice produced a clamour of disapprobation and an universal hiss).

The LORD MAYOR represented that every individual had a right to express his opinion upon every Resolution proposed, either by his speech or by holding up his hand. He therefore requested that no individual might be impeded in the exercise of this right.

(The clamour continued, however, to be very great, and many called out, "then let us hear his reasons.")

Mr. QUIN then came forward, and said, that he did not come forward as a mediator for any man, although as a supporter and warm asserter of the rights and privileges of the Liverymen, he would say that every man had a right to a fair hearing. They ought not, however, to consider that they were contending against one man, nor even against a thousand; and so far from wishing to discourage their enemies from shewing themselves, it was necessary to give them the chance of coming forward. They had not a battle to fight against individual opposers, but they had to contend with the Treasury, the Excise, the Tax-gatherers; and, perhaps, even the Army, the Navy, and the Church might be pressed into the ranks of their enemy. A Petition which was to be delivered to the Secretary of State, would be handed to the Clerk of the Council, to bring before the Lords of the Council, to consider whether it should ever be laid before his Majesty or not. For several years past, the right of petitioning had been frittered away. At first, upon account of his Majesty's infirmities, the Petitions of the City were only to be presented at levees, and now it was said that they were not to be delivered at all into his hands, but to be sent to his Secretary. Now, although he had as high a respect as any man for the feelings of his Majesty, and as much sorrow for the infirmities of his age, yet he could not understand how it was possible that it could give much pain to the Sovereign to stretch out his royal hand at the levee, to receive the Petitions of his City of London, when he gave audience to private individuals. As to the miserable men who now filled the different offices in the Executive Government, he considered them upon the brink of ruin; and that this advice which was given to his Majesty, was merely the cry of despair. It did not proceed from any consciousness of strength, but was a presage of their destruction.

The fifth and sixth Resolutions then passed unanimously.—The Resolution was then read for instructing their Representatives in Parliament, which was also passed unanimously, with the exception of young Mr. Kemble. (The persevering opposition of this young gentleman to the general voice excited considerable clamour, and many persons cried out "Kemble, what do you want? do you expect to be made a tax-gatherer?")

Upon the Vote of Instruction to the Representatives being passed.

Sir WILLIAM CURTIS came forward.—(For a considerable time hisses prevailed, intermixed with the cries of "hear the Old Commodore.")—Having obtained a hearing, he said, that he now conceived it his duty to deliver his sentiments. He did not now mean to stand forward as the champion of Ministers; he had delivered his opinion against them in another place. He wished an inquiry to take place on the Walcheren Expedition; but he believed the Noble Lord who was at the head of it (Lord Chatham) was as anxious for an inquiry as any other man. As to the right of petition, he would always contend in favour of it on the part of all his Majesty's subjects, but more especially on the part of the Citizens of London, who had exercised that privilege from time immemorial. He knew that the Petitions of the Livery were formerly received at the Levee; because he himself, when Lord Mayor, had presented at the Levee an Address from the Livery of congratulation to his Majesty, for his recovery from a dangerous illness. That, to be sure, was a complimentary Address.—*(Loud laughing.)* As to receiving instructions, they knew his sentiments. He would go to the House of Commons to hear the arguments on both sides, and (as God was his judge) to determine according to his conscience.

Alderman COMBE said shortly, that he should go into the House of Commons prepared to obey the instructions of his Constituents; and that if ever his conscience should not allow him to obey these instructions, he would resign. This appeared to him to be the duty of a Representative, and this was an opinion, which "fire would never be able to burn out of him." On the present occasion, not only his duty but his opinion went along with the instructions which he had heard read, and which he was ready to obey. *(Loud applause.)*

Sir JAMES SHAW came forward (the hissing was so general, that it was some time before he could obtain a hearing.) He said, that on any subject which regarded the rights and privileges of the City of London, or their local interests, he would cheerfully obey the instructions of his constituents; but that on all subjects of general policy, applying equally to all parts of the United Kingdom, he would consider himself the representative of freemen, and a freeman himself. As to the Walcheren Expedition, he was ready to declare that he thought it had disappointed the just hopes and expectations of the country, and was therefore a subject of serious inquiry. As to his opinions respecting sinecure places and reversions, he conceived that they had been sufficiently proved by his conduct on the Finance Committee, of which he had been a regular attending Member. As to the right of petitioning, he agreed with what had been so well said by the Speaker of the House of Commons, that not only the doors of that House, but the ears of all public men, ought to be open to petitions. He should, therefore, at all times feel it his duty to present and support, not only petitions from that respectable body, but the petition of the meanest individual who complained of oppression.

(The other Resolutions were carried unanimously, Mr. Kemble having previously retired, amidst a volley of hisses.)

The thanks of the Livery were then voted to the LORD MAYOR, who returned thanks.

Mr. FAVELL then proposed voting the thanks of the Livery to Mr. Sheriff Wood, for his independent conduct at all times, and particularly for demanding an audience of his Majesty. (After a considerable delay, the Resolution was altered, and read as a vote of thanks to the Sheriffs; but the general shout of the Hall was No, no! Thanks to Sheriff Wood only.)

The thanks being accordingly voted to Sheriff WOOD,

That Gentleman rose and thanked the Livery for the honour they had done him. It became necessary for him to answer insinuations which had been generally thrown out, that he had wished to rush into the presence of his Majesty, in order to insult him. Insinuations of this sort had been perpetually thrown out from the same quarters: if ever there was a question of presenting Petitions or Addresses to the Sovereign, respecting the rights of his subjects, and their interests, it was always said, "Do you want to insult the grey hairs of your Sovereign?" This was a trick however which was now somewhat stale. It was no insult to the Sovereign, whatever might be his age, for the subject to exercise their undoubted right of petitioning for the redress of grievances. He was certainly very anxious to accomplish the duty which had been assigned to him of giving their Address into the hands of his Majesty, and as it had now been resolved that the Sheriffs should place into the hands of his Majesty the Resolutions passed this day, he would again do every thing in his power to obtain an audience for the purpose. *(Applause.)*

A partial cry was then raised for Mr. Sheriff Atkins.

Sheriff ATKINS then came forward. He said, that he only presented himself to declare his readiness to answer any questions which could be put to him by those who called upon him by name. As he did not find, however, that they had any question to ask him, and as they had not voted him thanks, he was left but little to say. He could, however, appeal to his brother Sheriff, as also to the Lord Mayor, whether he had neglected any part of the duty which had devolved upon him. If he was conscious of such neglect of duty, he could not present himself to them with that conscious rectitude that he did at present. As he heard no reason assigned for refusing him thanks, he did not know what observations to make on the subject.

Mr. Sheriff WOOD then came forward and declared, that his brother Sheriff had been as attentive as it was possible to be to the duty which was assigned to them, and had been as anxious in his endeavours to procure an audience.

(Several voices cried, he ought to be joined in the Vote of Thanks, but the majority of voices was, "No, no, we cannot forget his former conduct.")—Adjourned.

In a MEETING or ASSEMBLY of the MAYOR, ALDERMEN, and LIVERYMEN of the several Companies of the City of London, in Common Hall assembled, at the Guildhall of the said City, on Tuesday, the ninth day of January, 1810.

1. Resolved unanimously, That it is the undoubted right of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the City of London to present their Petitions to the King sitting on his Throne: that out of personal feelings towards their Sovereign, they did, at the last Common Hall, waive their exercise of this right.

2. Resolved unanimously, That it appears that the Secretary of State informed the Sheriffs, that the Petition of the Livery could be received only through his Office; that they have been denied not only the usual access to his Majesty, by a personal audience, but the undoubted right of presenting the same when they had actually access to his Majesty at the Levee, where they attended to present, and did present a Petition from the Court of Common Council.

3. Resolved unanimously, That such denial is not only subversive of the Rights of the Livery, but a flagrant violation of the Right of Petitioning, claimed, demanded, and insisted upon and confirmed to them by the Bill of Rights.

4. Resolved unanimously, That all complaints of the *misconduct* and *incapacity* of his Majesty's Servants are most likely to be nugatory, if such complaints must pass through the hands of *those very servants*, and the People can have no security that their complaints are heard.

5. Resolved, That whoever advised his Majesty not to receive the Petition of the Livery in the accustomed and established mode, have committed a scandalous breach of their duty, violated one of the first principles of the Constitution, and abused the confidence of their Sovereign.

6. Resolved unanimously, That this Common Hall, disregarding all attempts and designs of *interested and corrupt hirelings*, who derive emoluments from the national burthens, to impute unworthy and disloyal motives to those who resist unprincipled and dangerous encroachment upon their established rights, are determined, to the utmost of their power, to maintain them against those evil Counsellors, who have thus raised a barrier between the King and the People, and thereby prevented their just complaints from reaching the royal ear.

7. Resolved, That the following instructions be given to our Representatives in Parliament:—

GENTLEMEN,—You are hereby instructed to move in the House of Commons (or support such motion, if moved), for an humble Address to his Majesty, praying for an immediate and rigid inquiry into the cause of the unexampled failures and disasters which have attended our late Expeditions to Spain, Portugal, and Holland, whereby the blood and treasure of the country have been shamefully sacrificed, without rendering any effectual assistance to our Allies, checking the progress of the enemy, or tending to the glory or security of his Majesty's Crown and Dominions. You are also instructed to support *all motions* which have for their object *inquiry into the violation of the rights of petitioning—into the wasteful expenditure of the public money—the correction of public abuses—the abolition of all unnecessary places and pensions—the shortening of the duration of Parliaments, and restoring them to their Constitutional purity and independence*, as the only means of retrieving our public affairs, and enabling this country successfully to contend against surrounding nations.

8. Resolved unanimously, That the Sheriffs, attended by Mr. Remembrancer, do forthwith wait upon his Majesty, and deliver into his Majesty's hand, in the name of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of London, a fair copy of the foregoing Resolutions, signed by the Town Clerk.

9. Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, for his independent behaviour upon all occasions, and particularly for his conduct this day.

10. Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this Meeting be given to Sheriff Wood, for his general conduct, and for his having requested an audience of his Majesty, agreeable to the instructions of this Hall.

To the KING's Most Excellent MAJESTY in COUNCIL.

The humble and dutiful Address and Petition of the LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN, and LIVERY, of the City of London, in Common Hall assembled.

"MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

"We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the City of London, in Common Hall assembled, most humbly approach your Majesty at this awful crisis, to exercise a duty no less painful than imperious.

"It is to represent with humility to your Majesty the present deplorable situation of public affairs, that we have again approached your Royal Person.

"Attached to your Majesty's illustrious House from affection and from duty, we should ill demonstrate the sincerity of our loyalty, were we to conceal from your Majesty that it is not amongst the least considerable of our grievances that attempts should have been made to brand your Majesty's faithful subjects with disaffection to your person and Government, whenever they have exercised their indubitable right to complain of gross abuses in the State, or to attribute the disgraceful failure of expensive and calamitous enterprises to the ignorance and incapacity of those who either planned or executed them, as if infallibility were the appendage of office, and belonged of right to those who may be called into your Majesty's Councils.

"With equal grief and indignation we have seen the disastrous result of various Expeditions, in which your Majesty's armies have been unhappily engaged, and which most forcibly mark the *disgraceful imbecility* of those distracted Councils, which have so scandalously lavished the blood and treasure of a patient, loyal, and burthened people.

"Towards the close of the preceding year your faithful Citizens humbly expressed to your Majesty their deep concern and disappointment at the disgraceful Convention of Cintra; but we have yet to deplore that due and efficient inquiry has not been made into that disgraceful transaction.

"It is equally painful to call to your Majesty's recollection the melancholy fate of a second army assembled within the Peninsula, under the gallant Commander Sir John Moore. Ignorant alike of the state and disposition of the Spaniards, and the force and designs of the enemy, this army being sent into the interior of Spain, was in imminent danger of being captured; in this critical emergency and state of agonizing perplexity, abandoned to his own resources, this hapless but meritorious Officer at length discovered that he had no safety but in flight; with the loss of his ammunition, horses, specie, and baggage, and harassed and assailed on all sides, he secured the retreat of the remains of his gallant followers, by the sacrifice of his own invaluable life.

"Deriving no benefit from experience, a third well appointed army, under the command of Sir Arthur Wellesley, was hurried into the interior of Spain, alike ignorant of the force and movements of the enemy, where, after an unprofitable display of British valour and a dreadful slaughter, this army, like the former, was compelled to seek its safety by a precipitate retreat, before (what we were led to believe) a vanquished foe, leaving thousands of our sick and wounded countrymen in the hands of the enemy. This loss, like others, has passed *without inquiry*; and, as if *impunity had placed the servants of the Crown above the reach of justice*, your Majesty has been advsied to *confer titles of honourable distinction on the General who had thus exhibited a rash and ostentatious display of unprofitable bravery.*

"After these multiplied errors, and in defiance of reiterated experience, we have seen another Expedition, yet more expensive, more disgraceful, and more calamitous than the former. This armament, delayed until the fate of Austria was decided, landed on the unwholesome shores of the Scheldt; where, after an unaccountable state of inaction, thousands of our brave soldiers have miserably and ingloriously perished by pestilence, privation, and disease, without having accomplished one national object. On such an Expedition, planned and conducted by a Minister, who it is now known had been pronounced unfit for his office by his Colleagues—an Expedition

that touches all minds with shame and fills all hearts with agony, it is too painful to dilate.

"We cannot refrain from representing to your Majesty, that while the affairs of the Nation have been so shamefully misconducted abroad, the most scandalous waste, profusion, and mismanagement, have prevailed at home; and your Majesty's confidential Advisers, destitute of all those qualities essential to good government, and regardless alike of the sufferings of the People and of the honour of their Sovereign, and insensible or indifferent to the surrounding dangers and impending fate of the Country, have been engaged in the most disgraceful squabbles, intrigues, and cabals, that ever degraded the councils of any nation, and which cannot but be as disreputable to your Majesty's Government, as they are ruinous and dishonourable to the country.

"While we disclaim all interest in the views of contending parties, from a firm conviction that we cannot look for a reformation in the abuses of the State from any persons or parties interested in the preservation of them, we cannot but express our ardent hope that your Majesty will be more fortunate in the choice of the men to whom you may hereafter confide the conduct of affairs; and that your Councils will be no longer embarrassed, nor the country insulted and dishonoured, by those disgraceful occurrences, which, while they have exposed us to the ridicule of surrounding nations, may embolden the enemy to look forward with confidence to the subjugation of a nation so distracted in her Councils, and so improvidently governed.

"That while we forbear enumerating a long train of internal grievances, we cannot but attribute such a series of failures and disasters to the abuses and corruptions of the State, and the consequent want of constitutional controul over the public expenditure and the servants of the Crown, whereby the responsibility of Ministers appears to exist only in name.

"We, therefore, humbly pray your Majesty will be graciously pleased to assure your loyal and affectionate people, that the object to which their wishes are directed, is neither to be abandoned nor eluded; and that your Majesty will be pleased to institute a rigid, impartial, and general inquiry, into these great national misfortunes; into the plans upon which these Expeditions were undertaken, and into the conduct of the Commanders to whom they were entrusted."

OLD BAILEY.

On Wednesday, *Samuel Walker*, otherwise *Leeson*, was capitally indicted under the Statute commonly called Lord Ellenborough's Act, for wilfully, maliciously, and unlawfully presenting a pistol loaded with gunpowder and leaden shot, at Thomas Boswell, and drawing the trigger thereof, with intent to kill and murder the said Boswell, or to do him some bodily harm. Boswell is a gardener at Enfield Chace; and on the day stated in the indictment, the prisoner came to his house, under pretence of purchasing a quantity of potatoes. The prosecutor's wife was in the act of frying some sprats for dinner, and the prisoner observed, "I see you have got sprats." The prosecutor invited him to sit down and partake, which he accordingly did: but while at dinner, he suddenly turned to the prosecutor, drew out a pistol, presented it at him, and demanded his money. But the prosecutor and his wife, with equal resolution and presence of mind, instantly sprang upon him and seized him; the prisoner snapped his pistol at the prosecutor, but fortunately it missed fire, and he was disarmed, secured, and given into the custody of Handcock, a Police Officer, belonging to Hatton-garden Office. The prisoner had nothing to say in his defence; and was of course found *Guilty—Death*.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

On Thursday at noon, a man in passing along Thames-street, near the Steel-yard, was crushed against the wall by the shafts of a cart, and killed on the spot. The body was taken to the bone-house to be owned.

On the night between Friday and Saturday week, a most daring robbery was committed in the shop of Messrs. Coward and Co. silversmiths, &c. in Cornhill. The thieves, by means of instruments, compleated a breach through the window shutters, sufficient to admit a hand, in spite of the difficulties which presented themselves. The shutters were lined with iron-plate, which, of itself, was deemed a sufficient security; but to such a pitch of perfection have the burglars brought the instruments for their calling, that human precaution cannot guard against them. By introducing their hands, and forcing a wire case, they obtained in watches, silver articles, and light gold, plunder to the amount of 400l. The gang consisted of several persons, who employed themselves in pacing the streets backwards and forwards; not only by way of guarding against a surprise, but also to make a noise to prevent the instruments at work upon the shutters being heard. At times, where they were occasionally disturbed, the hole they perforated was covered by a sheet of paper painted the colour of the shutters; so that there appeared nothing striking to attract the notice of the passengers. During the several hours the robbers were thus employed, no watchman was heard, which is but too common a case under similar circumstances. The villains were once observed by a person going to Covent-Garden market, and who knew part of the gang to be housebreakers, particularly a *cripple* and a drover: but as he afterwards explained, it was as much as his life was worth to interrupt or even to let it be supposed he knew them. This man came forward next day, and gave information on the business. It has been since ascertained that a gang of forty thieves of this description meet nightly at a house in the vicinity of Shire-lane, where they plan their nocturnal depredations. Since their success at Messrs. Coward's, the same gang, according to description, attempted Mr. Plumly's, on Ludgate-hill, but were disappointed of their booty. Whilst they where perforating the window shutters, they were observed by a butcher's boy, but who seemed ignorant of their intention. Finding that to be the case, they *hoaxed* the youth by telling him they had been in pursuit of a mad bullock, which had just turned the corner towards Fleet-market. This had the desired effect; the lad set off full speed to join the chace; in due time he returned, and finding the villains hovering about, he suspected their views; and from his close remarks finally obliged them to quit their prey.

Tuesday evening a young man residing in a court near Lombard-street, attempted to put a period to his existence, by jumping from London-bridge into the Thames; it being high water, several boats put off, and he was picked up, and taken to the Old Swan public-house, where the means recommended by the Humane Society were successfully resorted to. Jealousy is said to have been the cause of this rash attempt.

BIRTHS.

Thursday se'nnight, the wife of William Anderson, a poor man, near the Quakers' Meeting-house, in Leeds, was safely delivered of two fine boys and a girl; all are doing well. The family now consists of five children, all born within the last thirteen months!!!

DEATHS.

At Ormistonn, Scotland, on the 29th Dec. in the 94th year of her age, the Hon. Helen Murray, daughter of Lord Elibank, and widow of Sir John Stuart, Bart.

At sea, on 17th November, Captain C. W. Boys, Commander of his Majesty's ship Statira.

Poor Meredith, the long celebrated Bass-singer, has survived the amputation of his leg but a very short time; this social son of harmony departed this life on Saturday fortnight, at Wrexham.

On the 10th inst. at Lambeth, Mrs. Northcote, widow of the late Henry Northcote, Esq.

On Thursday, in Newman-street, J. D. Englebeart, Esq. late of Kew-green.

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